

Claims:

The status of the claims is as follows:

Claims 2, 3, 6, 7, 11, 14, 17, 18 and 22-25 have been cancelled.

Claims 1, 15 and 16 have been amended.

Claims 4, 5, 8-10, 12, 13 and 19-21 are previously submitted (original) claims.

1. (Currently Amended) A receptacle assembly supported on a surface or near surface offshore oilfield production structure for receiving therein and permanently supporting an elongate member extending downward to one of the seabed or another structure, the elongate member having a supported surface affixed thereto, the receptacle assembly comprising:

a mounting bracket fixedly secured to the structure; and

a receptacle basket supported on the mounting bracket, the receptacle basket having an annular body with a throughbore therein for receiving the elongate member and having a basket supporting surface for planar engagement with the supported surface of the elongate member-; and

a locking member for fixing the position of the receptacle basket relative to the mounting bracket.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Original) The receptacle assembly as defined in Claim 1, further comprising:  
an adjustment member for adjusting an angular position of the receptacle basket relative to the mounting bracket.

5. (Original) The receptacle assembly as defined in Claim 1, wherein the mounting bracket and receptacle basket include a receiving member on one and a projecting member on the other for selective engagement and disengagement of the receptacle basket and the mounting bracket.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Original) The receptacle assembly as defined in Claim 1, wherein the receptacle basket includes a tapered supporting surface for mating engagement with a tapered supported surface on the elongate member.

9. (Original) The receptacle assembly as defined in Claim 1, further comprising: the mounting bracket includes a left side and a right side bracket plate; and a horizontal pin member interconnecting bracket plates and supporting the receptacle basket.

10. (Original) The receptacle assembly bracket as defined in Claim 9, wherein the receptacle basket includes a slot for receiving the pin member.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Original) The receptacle assembly as defined in Claim 1, further comprising:

a stop secured to the receptacle basket for limiting downward movement of the receptacle basket relative to the elongate member.

13. (Original) The receptacle assembly as defined in Claim 1, wherein the mounting bracket is fixedly secured to the structure such that the elongate member, when supported on the receptacle basket with the receptacle basket supported on the mounting bracket, is positioned off a side of the offshore oilfield production structure.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Currently Amended) A method of permanently supporting an elongate member from a surface or near surface offshore oilfield production structure, the elongate member extending downward from the structure toward one of a seabed or another structure and having a supported surface affixed to the elongate member, the method comprising:

fixing a mounting bracket to the structure;

positioning a closed throat receptacle basket about the elongate member, the receptacle basket having a throughbore therein for receiving the elongate member and a basket supporting surface for planar engagement with the supported surface on the elongate member; and

thereafter suspending an assembly including the receptacle basket and the elongate member from the mounting bracket for supporting the receptacle basket

therefrom and thereby supporting the elongate member.

16. (Currently Amended) The method as defined in Claim 15, further comprising:

forming a ~~basket supporting surface on bore in~~ the receptacle basket relative to an outer surface of the receptacle basket such that, when the supported surface of the elongate member is supported on the receptacle basket, the elongate member will be positioned at a selected azimuth and declination relative to the offshore structure.

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Original) The method as defined in Claim 15, further comprising:  
mounting the receptacle basket on the mounting bracket such that the receptacle basket is movable relative to the mounting bracket.

20. (Original) The method as defined in Claim 15, further comprising:  
adjusting an adjustment member to alter an angular position of the receptacle basket relative to the mounting bracket.

21. (Original) The method as defined in Claim 15, further comprising:  
providing a stop to limit axial downward movement of the receptacle basket relative to the elongate member.

22 - 25 (Cancelled)